Endorsement to the Proposal from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan:

"Reliable Quality Water for Jordan"

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is pleased to endorse the submission of the Jordanian proposal “Reliable Quality Water for Jordan” to the Transition Fund - following consultations with the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, with the Water Authority Jordan and with the Yarmouk Water Company.

The proposal submitted to the Transition Fund by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, will benefit both the Water Authority Jordan (WAJ) and the Yarmouk Water Company (YWC). Both are public entities operating with the aim of developing and protecting water sources; providing water and sewerage services to ensure the requirements of citizens, and improving infrastructure to preserve the environment and public health.

In line with its Water Strategy and to the Transition Fund’s objective, Jordan is seeking financing to build sustainable Technical Cooperation to (i) improve monitoring of water quality and related public health awareness, also through the establishment of a Unit of Excellence within the Water Authority in Jordan; (ii) support improvements to tariff-setting legal and institutional frameworks which could likely be replicated in the country; and to (iii) implement best practices from the EBRD transition region (Central and Eastern Europe, and Turkey), including through twinning Jordan with successful water companies in Romania; and to provide opportunities for sharing lessons learned and advancing regional cooperation within the Arab Countries Water Utility Associations.

EBRD is pleased and ready to support Jordan in this Technical Cooperation project, which is complementary to our broader engagement in the country and will further contribute to implement Jordan’s vision for a water strategy built around the country priorities to be achieved by 2022. EBRD’s priorities in the municipal sector are to ensure right incentives to use water more efficiently, also through active policy dialogue; to improve efficiency and service levels through financial and operating performance improvement programs; to promote energy efficiency; and introduce monitoring and benchmarking programs to crowd in the private sector and increase longer-term sector’s sustainability.

EBRD is committed in supporting Jordan’s transition through sharing lessons learned and best practices replicating its successful engagement in the municipal water sector in its traditional region of operation in the last 20 years.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Jones
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EBRD Representative on the Transition Fund Steering Committee